OCA 88-3004 16 September 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Director

The Deputy Director

FROM:

John L. Helgerson

Director of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT:

Weekly Report

House Passes FY '89 Intelligence Authorization Bill - SEO Colloquy. On 14 September, the House took up and passed the conference report on H.R. 4387, clearing the measure for Senate action which is expected within the next few days. Passage was routine except for a series of statements by various Members concerning the Security Evaluation Office (SEO).

During the course of floor debate, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Stokes and Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Fascell engaged in a colloquy that, in general, supported the Department's position in the SEO matter. have learned that State Department was involved in formulating this colloquy.) The two chairmen noted for the record that the Secretary of State under existing law has the responsibility to set counterintelligence standards and that the role of SEO is to formulate and recommend counterintelligence security standards to the Secretary of State. We learned of this effort at the last minute, but worked with key democratic staffers to edit the colloquy to prevent any serious damage and with Representative Henry Hyde's staff to formulate a response by Mr. Hyde which he gave following the colloquy. The Hyde statement gave support to the Agency position by indicating that the Secretary had delegated responsibility in your joint memorandum on this subject. Representative Lungren also made a similar brief statement.

House Continues Action on the Drug Bill. The House resumed consideration of the omnibus, anti-drug bill this week. The Brooks amendment creating a "moderately strong" "drug czar" was adopted and the Hughes amendment creating a "strong" czar was withdrawn. It appears the House will take up the Alexander "Anti-Stonewalling Act" amendment late today.

The DDCI has contacted several House Members to register our opposition to the amendment. Responses were generally encouraging, especially from Representative Murtha, who is a key figure among moderate Democrats. Administration efforts in opposition to the amendment also appear to be going well.

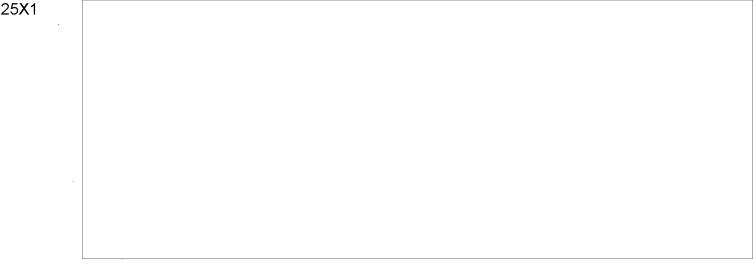
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Intelligence Oversight Legislation: The House Rules Committee adopted a rule for the Intelligence Oversight bill that would permit only "germane" amendments and require that the amendments be printed in the Congressional record before being offered on the floor. We understand that Representative Panetta may offer an amendment that would allow GAO access to CIA information if the Intelligence Committees request GAO to conduct an investigation. We had anticipated that the bill would be brought to the floor this week, but it now appears that the bill will not be considered until the last week in September. This will not leave much time to resolve differences with the Senate and attempt to override an expected

John/L. Helgers/on

25X1 Presidential veto.

D/OCA/JLH:wcsr (16 Sep 88)

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